## UTE OUTBREAK

Moving to the Relief of Thornburgh's Command.

CONCENTRATION OF

Probable Massacre of Whites at the Agency.

CAUSES OF THE HOSTILE MOVEMENT.

Encroachment of Miners and Too Many Improvements.

THE GREAT UTE RESERVATION.

Strength and Resources of the Tribe.

> [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.] Rawlings, Wy. T., Oct. 2, 1879.

General Merritt started at eleven o'clock this morning with the advance of his column, consisting of four companies of cavalry numbering about two hundred men, and 130 infantry in wagons, altogether about three hundred and fifty men and officers. Two companies of infantry are encamped in town awaiting wagon transportation. The advance have 160 mules, heavily packed with ammunition and rations.

It will be impossible for the advance of this command to reach the Thornburgh expedition before Sunday night or Monday morning, before which time the suffering among the survivors will be very great, if they are able to retain their position that long. There is no grass along the route, the Utes having burned it all before the outbreak, and it is necessary to transport forage for all the animals by wagons. THE LAST INFORMATION.

No information has been received from the unfortunate expedition since the night of the 29th, at which time they were entering in a narrow bottom of Milk River, a point 160 miles south of Rawlins and 25 miles north of the Ute reservation in Colorado, when they were com pletely surrounded by Indians, who held a position on the high ground above the comman about four hundred vards distant. There is water in the bottom, but it is not known if it is enclosed within their breastworks. If outside they will be able to reach it only in the night and then at great risk to those who undertake it. Their position is as perilous as it possibly could be, and one likely enough to follow when 180 soldiers are sent against a thousand or more hostile Indians.

PRIOR TO THE FIGHT.

The night preceding the Milk River battle Colorow and Ute Jack, two Ute chiefs of very bad reputation, visited the camp of Major Thornburgh and informed him that he might visit the agency with five men, but the command would not be allowed to proimpression that the expedition were to remove them south of their reservation. They were asked by the officer to smoke, which they, in a contemptuous manner, refused to do. Yet. after this, and knowing also from reliable information that the Indians had a war dance at the agency, Thornburgh was obliged to obey his orders and march on to almost certain death.

THE STORY OF THE FIGHT TOLD AT DENVER-THE INDIAN TACTICS-SAVAGES WHO OBJECT TO BEING CIVILIZED -INTERVIEW WITH GOV-ERNOR PITKIN, OF COLORADO.

LBY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

DENVER, Oct. 2, 1879. Information of the fight between Indians and troops reached Denver about noon vesterday. and was succeeded by general excitement, as it was expected the militia would be ordered out. Governor Pitkin being spoken to on the subject says:-"As the federal soldiers have taken the matter in band the State will take no action, unless it becomes necessary, but when it does the State is ready. It may be necessary to protect the frontier. A despatch was received here giving the account of the fight, of which I send some particulars that may not have reached you. A supply train of thirty-three wagons and a conpany of infantry, with three cavalry companies. made up Major Thornburgh's command. The infantry company was dropped at Old Fortification Camp to act as a guard to passing supply trains and as a reserve. Thornburgh's conmand, numbering about one hundred and sixty men, proceeded, and met the first Indians at Bear River, sixty-five miles north of the agency, and outside of the reservation.

A PARLEY AND AN ADVANCE.

Ten Utes came up and said they were hunting, merely. The same ten Indians were met at William's Fork of Bear River. This time they suggested that Major Thornburgh should leave his command where they were and proceed with them, taking an escort of only five men, to the White River Agency. Thornburgh, however, feared another Modoe affair, and declined to accept the invitation. He then proceeded on his way with the entire command, and was met twenty-five miles north of the agency by about three hundred warriors, who had men lying in ambush.

INDIAN TACTICS.

the road above where the Indians were ambushed, othus avoiding another event which would have been similar to the Custer massa-

Once the Indians came up in line about three

hundred yards away from the troops, but Thornburgh ordered his men not to fire until the Indians flid, saying :-

"My orders are positive, and if I violate them and survive a court martial may follow. I feel as though myself aid men may be murdered." By this time the Indians had flanked the troops, and, uttering the Ute war whoop, opened fire. The wagon train was corralled about three-fourths of a mile in the rear of the com mand, and the Indians got between the wagon train and the soldiers, and fought on foot, slowly retreating.

THE DASH FOR THE WAGONS.

Seeing his danger, Major Thornburgh mounted with twenty men and made a charge for his train. Thornburgh and thirteen men were killed. The others reached the train and made breastworks of the wagons and held the position until half-past eight on Monday night, when the Indians withdrew. In the entire engagement there were fourteen killed and thirty-four wounded. Every officer was shot except Lieutenant Cherry, of the Fifth cavalry. Two hundred head of mules were killed. Surgeon Grimes was wounded, but is still able for duty. PANIC OF THE SETTLERS.

The settlers on Snake River are leaving. They report that Agent Meeker and all the employés were killed on Sunday. Mr. Meeker's wife and daughter were with him at the agency. The Indians have been burning great quantities of timber and grass and committing other depredations, creating damage amounting to millions. This first began in the uninhabited districts, then, on the night of the 9th of July they burned the houses belonging to J. B. Thompson, for many years general agent of the Utes, and an effort to arrest the criminals failed. Troops were called for by Governor Pitkin and a company was sent to Middle Park, 100 miles from the agency.

NO IMPROVEMENTS WANTED BY THE SAVAGES. Agent Meeker had attempted several reforms, ong others to farm lands. This was objected to by the Indians. A delegation of savages recently visited Denver to see Governor Pitkin. They complained that Mr. Meeker was trying to educate their children, and they wanted no education. He was also making too many improvements. There are among the Utes about a thousand warriors, and of the White River Utes about two hundred and fifty. The Southern Utes have sent up about one hundred warriors. All are well armed with Winehester

A short time since Governor Pitkin, of Colorado, received the following letter from Mr. N. C. Meeker, agent of the Utes at White River

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, Sept. 10, 1879. To Governor PITKIN:-We have ploughe eighty acres. The Indians object to any more ng done; shall stop ploughing. One of the pleughmen was abot at last week. I was as-saulted Monday in my own house by Chief Johnson, forced out doors and considerably in-The employés came to the rescue. The Indians laugh at my being forced out of the house. I feel that none of the white people are safe, and I want United States troops to protect me. They are positively needed at this time.

N. C. MEEKER, Agent.

STATEMENT OF GOVERNOR PITKIN.

When questioned to-day regarding this com nunication, and as to the events which had led to the uprising of Utes, the Governor said:-

"This Indian trouble had been brewing all Since last Jupe the Utes have been burning the forest and grasses along the line of their reservation, a distance of over three hundred miles. Roving bands have wandered up and down the entire country, leaving trail of fire wherever they went. Fires were started in uninhabited districts at first, but in August the houses of Mr. J. Thompson and Mr. Smart on Bear River, Routt county, were burned by the Indians, who were seen and recognized. Complaints for arson were sworn out before Judge Beck, of the First Judicial District, who issued warrants for the arrest of two Indians named Bennett and a Chinaman. A sheriff and posse followed the Indians into the reservation to execute the warrants, but were unable to find the criminals. Chief Douglass denied the right to arrest Indians on the reservation. This fact was officially reported to me by Judge Beck, and I applied to General Pope for troops to execute the warrants, on the ground that no Indians guilty of arson should escape punishment for crime by taking-refuge on the reservation. General Pope at once ordered a company of cavalry, then scouting in Middle Park, to the agency to arrest the Indians and assist the Sheriff. Meanwhile Mr. Meeker, the White River agent, had difficulty with certain members of the tribe, and had been rudely handled by Johnson, a leading chief. He applied to me for troops for protection, and I made the request of General Pope, who at once ordered Colonel Thornburgh on the mission in which he met his unfortunate

"You have expected something of this kind from this tribe, then?" asked your corre-

"I have thought for six weeks that there was a liability of the White River Utes making trouble, and, as I say, have written several letters to General Pope."

COMPLAINTS OF THE UTES.

"When the four White River Utes visited you as emissaries recently what did you learn of their demands or complaints!"

"They were here two days. They seemed dissatisfied greatly and complained because the government butchered the cattle of the tribe for consumption, instead of allowing the herd to increase and purchasing other cattle Under the guidance of Scout Rankin they left for butchering. They also complained that Agent Meeker was endeavoring to instruct the young, and they wished no education of their young men or ere. The command took the trail and met the children. They further complained that the agent was making too many improvements and was cultivating too much soil. They opposed

SCENE OF HOSTILITIES IN COLORADO.



gained of the position of the great Ute reservation in Colorado. The reserve is in charge of three agencies, at the most northerly of which-White River Agency, which is marked on the map-the troubles originated. The mountains north of the reserve invited the "prospectors" from Wyoming. Rawlins, on the line of the Pacific Railroad, was the general starting point. There is a fair trail, easily passable at this time of the year, from Rawlins to the White River Agency. It was along

not only progression but everything else. From these complaints, followed or accompanied by the extermination of game and the burning of forests, I was let to believe the White River Utes were hostile."

HOW THE UTES ARE DIVIDED. "Do you think the whole Ute nation is in the

uprising ?"

"No, sir; I do not. The nation is divided into three tribes, commonly known as the north or White River Utes, of whom Douglass chief; of the Uncompangres, of whom Ouray is 'chief, and the Southern Utes, located at Pagosa Springs, which will keep Ignato's band in check. Ignato has been unfriendly and his band was generally considered so in years past, but now that the military is quartered among them and they are too remote from the Northern Agency I apprehend no danger from them. The Uncompangres have been friendly for years, and Ouray, the chief, has been the stanchest friend of the whites of all the Indians. Captains Billy and Sam and a majority of the other chiefs of this band are also friendly. Sapayanaro, however, who is second only to Ouray in this tribe, has always been considered unfriendly, and I understood weeks ago that he very probable that he and his followers are en gaged in this attack. All the other Uncompaligre Utes I regard as friendly, but if they should turn hostile they could commit great depredation at Ouray and the neighboring camps." THE NUMBER OF UTES.

"How many Utes are there in the three

tribes ?" "There are a little over three thousand In

lians in the nation and over one thousand men who are able to bear arms. At an estimate I should judge these fighting Indians to be divided about as follows :-

White River Utes...... 250 UncompangreUtes..... 500 Southern Utes...... 250 

"According to this estimate, and I think it will be found nearly correct, if Saparanaro and the Douglass tribe have joined hands in the uprising, they have about three hundred armed Indians, the hand of the former chief number ing, it is thought, 100."

THE HOSTILES WELL PREPARED.

"How well prepared are the Utes for war ?" "They are all armed with Winchester rifles and the whole nation owns from eight to ten thousand ponies. The government has permitted them to raise and sell ponies and sheep, and the proceeds of this business have been used in purchasing small arms and ammunition, so they are as well armed as any band of Indians in the world."

"If a war is impending, who will have charge of the Indian forces?"

"Douglass will control the councils and prob ably lead the Indians. He is an able chief and the brightest of all the White River Utes. He was appointed a chief twelve years ago and has risen to first place by superior ability."

WHITES AT THE AGENCY. "How many white people do you think were at the agency!"

"Eight or ten white men and probably five or six white women."

"From what the Indians have so far said and done, and from the agent's position among them, do you entertain any theory as to the fate of the white people!"

"In all probability Agent Meeker has been killed. He had no means of escape, because the troops were attacked on the only road by which he could have escaped and the ambush was but twenty-five miles from the agency only. If his life is spared it is because Douglass did not join the assault and may protect Meeker to prevent the destruction of the tribe by the governhe met the hostiles at Milk Creek Canyon, as indicated above. It is the only road from the agency. General Merritt is now advancing along this road to the relief of the beleaquered soldiers on Milk Creek. He takes 350 men with him, and additional forces will be hurried after him, as fast as they arrive from different points along the Union Pacific Railroad He cannot reach the troops of Thornburgh's expedition before Sunday.

"When did you hear from Agent Meeker

"His last letter was dated September 24, and in it he said :- Things are quiet, because I have ceased to make improvements.' He also said that large bands of Indians were gathering there to start next month on a hunting expedition, which becomes very significant since the receipt of to-day's despatches."

FATE OF THE SETTLERS.

"What is your theory as to the extent of the work of the attacking Indians among the whites ?

"I do not think any large number of white settlers have been killed, because the fight was on the reservation in Summit county, a few miles south of the northern boundary of the reservation, where the whites were not permitted to settle. Fifteen or twenty miles north of that point, on Bear River, there are a great many ranchmen, but unless the Indians were able to exterminate the troops they would not bave time to attack the settlers, and the mes sengers who took the despatches to Rawlins and Laramie probably warned the settlers on their route."

. THE PATE OF THE INDIANS. "What will the government policy be now,

"I think the conclusion of this affair will end the depredations in Colorado. Secretary Schurz, while here a week ago, was impressed with the necessity of something being done immediately, and sent despatches to Washington giving his views. It will be impossible for the Indians and the whites to live in peace hereafter. This attack had no provocation, and the whites now understand that they are liable to be attacked in any part of the State, at any time where Indians happen to be in sufficient force."

"If the government temporizes, what then?" "My idea is that unless removed by the government they must necessarily be extermi-

READINESS OF THE STATE TO ACT.

"Should the government grant permission or so direct could you raise volunteers in time and in numbers to quell the outbreak at once!"

"I could raise 25,000 men to protect the settlers in twenty-four hours, but I don't think the government will allow State interference, as the outbreak took place on the reservation. The State would be willing to settle the Indian trouble at its own expense. The advantages that would accrue from the throwing open of 12,000,000 acres of land to miners and settlers would more than compensate for all expenses

MOVEMENT FOR THE RELIEF OF THE BE-LEAGURED TROOPS-RAPID MOVEMENT OF REINFORCEMENTS BY TRAIN.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD. ]

Омана, Neb., Oct. 2, 1879. No further information has been received at department headquarters from the Thornburgh command, proving that no conriers have passed the enemy's line since yesterday, and it may be interred either that the command is completely surrounded or that no important change in the condition of affairs has occurred to demand messages. One or two old Indian fighters here express the opinion that the Indians have dispersed ere this unless they have succeeded in overpowering the command, which is not believed possible.

THE RELIEF FORCE. General Merritt reached Rawlins this morning and informed headquarters that he would depart at eleven A. M. with 131 infantry, in wagons, and about 220 cavalry, a force he deemed sufficient for the immediate relief of Thornburgh's command. The remainder of the troops ordered to concentrate at Rawlins will follow as a reserve. General Merritt will relieve Payne by to-morrow afternoon according

to General Williams' calculation. Passengers from the West in the overlan

train to-day report great excitement and bustle along the road, owing to the news of the outbreak. Fears are felt at many points that all the Colorado Indians, including the Southern Utes, will join in this émeute, which will mean a most serious Indian war.

MOVEMENTS OF TRAINS

General Merritt pushed the arrangements for the moving of troops at Cheyenne with great rapidity. A party of officers left Chevenne on the regular noon train westward. A special train, starting about two o'clock, was made up of every kind of ear that could serve in a contingency. Horses and equipments were loaded inside and groups of soldiers rode on the top of cattle ears. The overland train passed trains bearing troops on Wednesday, two at Chevenne and one near Sidney, the latter with reinforcements from Fort McPherson.

ARRIVAL OF TROOPS.

Lieutenant Colonel Gilbert reached here this evening with the following companies of the Seventh infantry en route for Rawlins, where he will be held in case of need:-Company H, Captain Frean : Company B, Captain Kirtland; Company E, Captain Clifford; Company C, Lieutenant Quinton; Company K, Lieutenant Jackson; Company F, Captain Williams, making a total of 240 men. They will leave here at midnight. They were sent from St Paul at five o'clock Wednesday evening, under orders from General Sheridan, instructing them to leave at half-past seven o'clock with four days' rations. Several officers of the regiment are old Indian fighters. They left Fort Suelling in charge of eighty new recruits, the smallest force left at that fort in many years.

EXCITEMENT OVER THE OUTBREAK AT LEAD VILLE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

LEADVILLE, Col., Oct. 2, 1879. port of the murder of Indian Agent Meeker and his family, at the Ute Reservation, and the surprise and killing of Colonel Thorn hurch create great excitement here. Governor Pitkin has despatched couriers from this point to the Eagle River and Bear River districts, which are full of prospectors, to warn them of their danger. General Joe Wilson has been notified that the Leadville militia may be re quired to take the field, and three companies are holding a meeting at the present hour to find out what members are prepared to march.

VIEWS ENTERTAINED AT THE DEPARTMENTS FEARS FOR THE AGENT-OBJECT OF THORN BURGH'S MOVEMENT-CAUSES OF THE OUT-BREAK-WHAT THE INDIANS HAVE SUPPERED. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HEBALD.]

Washington, Oct. 2, 1879.

There has not been a despatch of any kind re one at the War Department in reference to the out break among the Utes. General Sheridan tele at Rawlins this morning. It is the opinion of officer will have no trouble whatever in reaching the be eagured command of Captain Payne, but that the In dians will retreat long before he arrives within strik-ing distance. They are never known to attack a superior force, or resist it when flight will serve their purpose best. General Merritt is not expected to reach Milk Creek before to-morrow afternoon. A forced march of thirty-six hours will bring him the vicinity of the place where the command of the late Major Thornburgh is intrenched. ency in the hope of finding the white residents still all alive, but there is little doubt of their massacre ere this. These movements will merely give our troops possession of a deserted agency, all the old men, women and children having by this time been sped upon their journey southward to the mountains in the neighborhood of the Los Pinos reservation.

upon the War Department for troops to visit th White River agency was to merely preserve order. It was thought the presence of several companies cavalry would have a quieting effect upon minds of the dissatisfied Chiefs. a hostile feeling in any direction, and the report that Major Thornburgh refused to order the were explicitly to the effect not to provoke hostilities, confirms the statement made by the War and Interior Department authorities that nothing we further from the purpose of Major Thornburgh's THE PEACEFUL INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

It will be remembered that when the news o Colonel Miles' last engagement was received in Washington the Interior Department promptly announced that Colonel Miles had exceeded his instructions in attacking what was believed to be a peaceable body of Indians, and the Socretary of War was equally emphatic in regretting the occurrence, as calculated to make unpleasant feelings between the War and Interior departments. Major Thornburgh was thoroughly sequainted with the character of the Indians he was going among, and was as well aware as anybody of their treacherous habits when incited to anger. On the 26th of September he telegraphed to General Sheridan fro Bear River, Colorado, as follows:-

Have met some Ute chiefs here. They seem friendly, and promise to go with me to the agency. The Utes say they do not understand why we have come. I have tried to explain satisfactorily and do not anticipate any trouble.

He did not even purpose taking his con such is the repugnance of the Indians to seeing soldiers about their reservation, and he was instructed to be extremely careful so as to avoid every sign of coming for any purpose save to awe by the presence of his command the turbulent

THE UTES' INTENTION TO KILL." When, however, it was known that he was approaching the threat was instantly made by the Utes that they would fight. As they were aware that the command was small they made such dispoettion of their members as was intended to kill every person in the command. The professions of friendhip on the part of the Ute chiefs is thus explained for by appearing not to be suspicious the co would have gone through the canyon where the Uter were ambushed, and the plan to massacre the whole party would have been carried out. Another evince, army officers say, of the intention of the Utes to do hostile deeds, was the knowledge which they possessed of the departure of Major Thorndestination. They were not only not surprised, but fully armed and prepared to fight it. Of the cause of the dissatisfaction which has produced this out-break the Interior and War departments know nothing save what was published in these despatches to-day. Without appropriations by Congress the Interior Department cannot expend a dollar, and every recommendation made by the nissioner has been ignore

As an evidence of the poor treatment which the erence is made to the report of E. H. Danforth, United States Indian Agent at the White River port to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for 1877. he saysor the treatment of the Utes at this agency :-

have reached this agency during the year. Gorpurchased in August of last year have been lying the railroad depot, 175 miles away, since Novemlast, a period of over mine months. Flour purchase the lat of June is still at Rawlina; no clothic blankets, tents, implements or utensils of any kinave been issued at this agency for nearly tyears; no flour except once fifteen pounds to a faily since last May. In addition to the usual proption of their subsistence which the Indians provior themselves, they have had this great deficient on make up in whole or in part some with the exception of a few families, ionly way in which the Indians here know to provide for themselves is by hunting, peremptory regulations of the department the sof arms and ammunition upon the reservation been prohibited. At the same time the Indians had only to go off their reservation to obtain all tarms and ammunition, both loose and fixed, whithey desire, a number of trading posts being see sible, and no white man refusing to furnish the articles to the Indians is a very good evidence, where the same time the continuation of the continuation of

STATEMENT OF ONE WHO KNOWS

and who knows their peculiarities, says that the Utes who are involved in this fresh outbreak are undoubted'y among the most peaceable of all the remnant of Indian tribes of the United States. The people of Colorado, Wyoming and Utah have en-tered and departed from their reservation with almost complete immunity for many years, while defrauding them in the most shameless manner. But once previous to this outbreak there been any serious rebellion on the part of the Utes. Then the White River Utes and another band left their reservation and took the earpath, but were induced to return under a pledge that they would remain, which they have done up to this time under the most aggravating condi from any attempt at their pacification. G. W. Dodge it appears undertook that work and accomplished it at a cost of \$16,000, a part of which the Indian Office refused to pay, notwithstanding the order was made by Secretary Delano and was in the handwriting of istant Secretary Cowans. PAILURE OF THE GOVERNMENT.

It is alleged, and no doubt with some show of justice, that for years the government has utterly ailed to honorably meet its obligations toward these Indians. For some two years at one time their goods were en route and undelivered. When Mr. Meeker was appointed to that agency at the instance of Senator Teller, this was the status of affairs with the Utes. Mr. Meeker has proved one of the most upright and competent men in that branch of the public service, but he has been dicapped by a Congress which has fall make appropriations for from \$75,000 to \$100,000 due to these Indians. It was sincerely hoped that Mr. Meeker's appointment would avert future calam-ities, but his efforts have not been properly seconded by his government and the country is now reaping

the consequences.

TRESPASSES OF MINERS. To the other wrongs inflicted upon the Utes may be added the unrestrained trespasses of the miners upon their reservation, which should have been preequally aggravating and unbearable. They complain that trains are sent through their territory in charge of United States troops, against their warning to the contrary, though this may not be regarded as a

PREVENTION THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

These aggravations, some of which are severe proper respect for the obligations ment toward these Indians would no doubt have prevented this massacre and saved a vast amount of money which will now be spent in an atte punish the refractory Indians for having resisted the incompetency and injustice of our own govern-ment and its policy. If the Indians who are on the reservations coded to them by the government under treaty were protected, as they are entitled to the dishonesty of government officials, this out-break would no doubt have been averted. The pity is that those who have prompted this difficulty escape its worst consequences. They fall upon the soldier, when they should fall upon the heads of

ACTION OF A MAIL CARRIER Among other causes which, it is said, aroused the natred of the Utes, was the action of a former mail carrier, who carried the mail from Rawlins White River. He became dissi his compensation, and endeavored to obtain a higher price for his services by refusing to carry the mail any longer at the rate originally contra appears that the contract was really in the hands of Mr. Dorsey submitting to the demands of Perkins he gave it to another party. Thereupon Perkins, in revenge, proceeded urn the grass and poison the minds of the Utes with stories of the hardships they were compelled to endure through the non-compliance of the gov-ernment with its promises. Mr. Riedell, the sgent of Mr. Dorsey, who is in Washington, attributes the nostile feeling of the Utes to the machinations of

GENERAL TYNER NOT IN THE VICINITY AND PROBABLY SAFE.

this man Perkins.

General Knapp, chief clerk of the Post Office Department, received to-night the following reply to his telegram to the postmaster at Laramie, asking on relative to First Assistant Postma

W. A. KNAPP, Chief Clerk Post Office Department:—
Party Just arrived saw General Tyner and party on Big Creek, about fifteen miles from Tinkham's Rauch, at the entrance to North Park, Messengers have been sent to warn them of danger from Indians. I think they are all right. Will telegraph you when I hear from them. e C. W. SPALDING, Acting Postmaster.

This places General Typer and friends 150 mile east of the scene of Thornburgh's disaster, with a mountain range between them, and free from daner unless the outbreak among the Indians is more reperal than is now supposed.

THE GREAT UTE BESERVATION-SKETCH OF THE WHITE RIVER COUNTRY-AGENT MEEKER'S ATTEMPTS AT CIVILIZING THE INDIANS-THE EXPEDITION AND WHAT LED TO IT-THE MINERS' INVASION-LEADING MEN AMONG

The White River Agency has control of about 906 Indians, who occupy the extreme northern distri gion is picturesque and mountainous. Colorado contains 63,000,000 acres, embracing an area thirteen imes larger than Massachusetts. More than one half of this magnificent domain is occupied by the Rocky Mountains. When the mines were opened after the famous Pike's Peak excitement in 1859-60 the Ute Indians were assigned the th almost unexplored region west of the first range of countains bordered by the celebrated Northern and Middle parks. The district was considered "out of the world," and it was seldom visited except by a few adventurous hunters and prospectors. But when the mines of Central City, Black Hawk and George town had been fully opened, and flourishing towns sprang up, railroads were built through the hitherto inaccssible canyons, and prospectors pushed their way up to the snowy peaks of the highest mountains. opened on the summit of Mount Lincoln, 14,000 feet above the sea. From the tops of some of the moun tains the most enchanting views of the Ute country appeared, and in fair weather the smoke of the Ind an camp fires could be seen rising from the white topees in the valleys below. It has long been the ppinion of experts that the mountains and stream of the Ute reservation were rich with silver and gold, and a few months ago it was reported that gold, and a few months ago it was reported that valuable discoveries had been made in the neighbor-hood of the North Park. Some believed that there was even more wealth in this northern district of Colorado than there was in the celebrated guiches of the South Park. When reports came 'over the range" that gold in paying quantities had from all parts of the State and from Wyoming Ter-

ritory. The Indian Agent and the